REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-16 remain pending in this application. No claim amendments have been made.

Claim Objections

Claims 2-12 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim. Applicants appreciate the indication of allowability of claims 2-12.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 1 and 13-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Katase, U.S. Patent Publication No. 2002/0021483A1. Applicants request reconsideration of the rejection for the following reasons.

The present invention is directed to an organic EL element drive circuit, and in particular to achieving white balance regulation by regulating the end time points of the display time period D of the R, G & B display colors by externally setting the reset time period RT for each of R, G & B. In particular, the reset period RT of the reset control pulses for R, G & B are made different to make the end time points of the display periods for R, G & B display colors differently. As a result, the organic EL element drive circuit of the invention is capable of regulating white balance.

Katase discloses an electrophoretic display panel A including an image processing circuit 300A and a timing generator 400. The image processing circuit 300A generates image data D by compensating the input image signal VID based on electrical characteristics of the electrophoretic display panel A. The image data D is comprised of the primary colors R, G & B and the timing generator 400 generates timing signals synchronously with the image data D, which is used for driving scanning drive circuit 130 and data line drive circuit 140A. See figure 3 and paragraphs [0094-95].

As compared with the present invention, the drive circuit 300A of Katase is not equivalent to the organic EL element drive circuit of the present invention, which comprises a pulse generator circuit for current-driving organic EL elements through terminal pins provided correspondingly to the R, G & B display colors of the panel. The drive circuit 300A of the Katase is a PWM drive circuit. Also, the timing generator 400A of Katase does not generate a timing control signal corresponding to one horizontal scan period and a reset time period corresponding to a retrace period. Instead, the timing generator 400A generates a reset timing signal Cr (a timing control signal) corresponding to one scanning field. See paragraph [0180] of Katase. The reset time period of Katase does not correspond to a retrace period of the horizontal scan, but rather corresponds to one scanning field or scanning line (the activating (H-level) period) of reset timing signal Cr in the period of one scanning field. See paragraphs [0122] to [0130] and paragraphs [0149] to [0153] of Katase. Still further, data D in Katase is not data for regulating the display luminance of each display color R, G, B. Data D in Katase is comprised of three kinds of data each corresponding to one of the three primary colors (R, G, B) for displaying a color image. See paragraph [0094] of Katase.

Katase does not disclose an organic EL element drive circuit that current-drives organic EL elements according to a timing control signal and which has a reset time period, for regulating the display time period corresponding to one horizontal scan period and the reset time period corresponding to a retrace period of the horizontal scan, as set forth in claim 1 of the present invention. Regulating the display time period corresponding to one horizontal scan period of the present invention is a significant part of the claimed organic EL drive circuit combination of the present invention, which is not disclosed or suggested by Katase. Accordingly, the 35 U.S.C. §102(b) rejection should be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Respectfully submitted,

MATTINGLY, STANGER, MALUR & BRUNDIDGE, P.C.

By____________________
John R. Mattingly
Reg. No. 30,293
(703) 684-1120

JRM/so
Date: December 20, 2005